

Korea Exposes One Of Worst Blunders In American History

Those Responsible For Military Weakness Should Be Relieved

By David Lawrence

Whatever the immediate significance of the Korean war, a profound effect on the long-range military policy of the United States has been produced.

Never again can America depend on that narrow concept of a one-weapon strategy, the failure of which has brought the nation to its senses suddenly to learn that American interests can be as gravely injured by a series of local attacks in different parts of the globe as by a blitz at a given point by the large-scale forces of an enemy.

For one of the worst blunders in all American history has been committed. It is a blunder inexcusable because it defied the plain lessons of history taught in every naval or military war college in every nation of the world for centuries past.

The truth is that a nation with global responsibilities, disregarding the simple fact that three-quarters of the earth's surface is covered with water, ignored the age-old doctrine which called for the stationing of naval and military forces at strategic locations outside continental United States. America's offensive strength has always been her best defense.

Today Soviet Russia has acquired a vast coastline on the mainland of China and is reaching down with her land armies to Korea and is plainly threatening Japan, Okinawa and the Philippines. Against this the United States has an insignificant fleet in the Pacific Ocean. Its airpower, from floating bases, is relatively small. Its firepower from battle-ships and heavy cruisers for shore bombardment is virtually nonexistent. Its "hunter killer" defense by planes from small carriers against submarines is tragically absent from important sea areas in our line of communications, though the planes and the ships have been available for five years.

History shows that seapower is basic to the transportation of men and supplies and for the effective use of land power and air power at the point of trouble.

Navy Loses Its Status.

Whoever, therefore, scuttled the American Navy is responsible for today's debacle, having deprived the Navy of its status as a "fleet in being" recognized for centuries as a fundamental principle of national strategy. Those responsible for this mistake in judgment should be relieved of office—civilian or military.

Whoever took away from the United States Army its own air-land units capable of operating always with ground troops—compelling the Army to rely instead on the intermittent help of bombers or inadequate tactical units furnished by a U. S. Air Force primarily and rightly concerned with long-range strategic bombing—should be relieved of office, whether civilian or military. For to send a ground army into action without its own air artillery is like sending infantry into action without ground artillery.

Whoever fostered the idea that land armies of the United States could fight nowadays without armored divisions of tanks in sufficient numbers should be relieved of office—civilian or military.

Whoever sold Congress the idea that America would not need over-seas bases—floating or fixed—with adequate forces to maintain constantly in areas of potential trouble distant from our shores should be exposed to view now.

Politeness, personal friendships or sensitivity, partisanship are criminal excuses if they stand in the way of punishment of the blunders. No other course will satisfy the mothers of the men who are dying in Korea nor the mothers of the many more young men about to die as a consequence of these mistakes.

Whitewash Indicated.

The Congress shows signs of preparing a whitewash. A subcommittee of the Senate Armed Services Committee has been hastily appointed with hand-picked partisans, and already it has been announced in effect that past mistakes will be ignored. What a travesty on Congressional government! Will the American people have to punish the Democratic Party at the polls next autumn, deprive it of its majority status and accept Republican leadership which has also been indifferent if only now to register a protest and get the President to clean house? He might do it by transfers and camouflaged changes in function, but the end result should be to get some new military and civilian planners of strategy at the top.

America today needs to fix on a new long-range policy commensurate with her responsibilities in the United Nations. America needs at least 3 million troops with plenty of tactical aviation of their own, a naval fleet close to what it had in 1945, an Air Force of 70 groups for strategic bombing, and a mobile force of U. S. Marines of at least 250,000 men to be stationed in various parts of the world where it can be supported by the sea power and air power.

These are the real costs of survival. These are the elements of a national strategy based on the lessons of history and experience. The price of peace is never inexpensive and the price of survival always is economic discomfort and sacrifice. The tragedies of ancient Greece and Rome, the tragedies of Italy and France and Germany and Japan in modern times attest too plainly from a military and naval viewpoint to the disregard by their top commanders or civilian rulers of the significant lessons of strategy in world history.

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This Changing World

Will the Next Nation to Be Attacked Be One That Sent 'Regrets' on Korea?

By Constantine Brown

The real testing ground of the United Nations today is not at Lake Success. It is on the beaten-up peninsula of Korea.

Conceived in high hope, the United Nations was founded on a determination "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war" and to defend the equal rights of "nations large and small."

The United States took a leading role in this magnificent conception. The United States, never an aggressor nation, has taken a leadership in trying to make this conception a fact of life in the world. With patience, even if not always with judgment, or soundest wisdom, the United States, or more importantly the American people, has tried to guide this collective effort in the direction of peace.

There has been one recalcitrant nation, Soviet Russia. Working out of a pattern which was clear even before the United Nations was founded, Russia has followed a policy of aggression, of conquest and even of genocide in the envelopment of neighboring nations and peoples. It is confirmation, perhaps, of the stated ideals and objectives of the United States that Russia during the postwar years has recognized and publicized our country as its real target.

Aggression in Korea was a Soviet move, a calculated gamble that peace-loving America would not react to a point of armed intervention. If Moscow had been right it could have ridiculed the softness of purpose of the United States, played to advantage the propaganda line that America was a friend only of the great Western powers. But Moscow lost. As the United States threw its resources of blood and steel into defense of a weak little republic far removed from the perimeter of our own territorial or economic interests.

We Showed The Way.

In so doing, the United States showed the way to the United Nations to make this cause a collective one, one which could serve to lighten many other nations who live today too close to the shadow of the Iron Curtain. It led and it lured the United Nations in calling upon the other member nations, "large and small" to do their respective shares in this effort.

There was no thought in this country that ours would not be the major effort, that we would not supply most of the manpower, most of the money and most of the material. We have reached out in the past five years to assume the major burden of rehabilitating and strengthening the free world.

But this endeavor has been far from a selfish one, and when an overwhelming majority of the United Nations accepted the challenge of aggression in Korea we had reason to expect that there would be friends on the firing line as well as at the message centers.

To date the results have been disappointing. Elements of air and naval strength of other nationalities have appeared in the combat zone, a few promises have been received of ground troops to come, a scattering of other offers have been acknowledged and some regrets have been filed.

Today American men are dying in Korea and new billions of American dollars are being ploughed into the armaments of war, the vitals of defense of others as well as of ourselves.

Strength Has Limit.

Perhaps it is presumptuous to lecture the other free nations on what they should do. But it is not inappropriate to point out to them that the United States is not a bottomless reservoir of military and economic strength, that our astounding success in placing fighting men in a far off field in a matter of days and weeks is not matched by promises of the men of other nations in three months or a year, and that the American people are being confronted constantly with the persuasive suggestion that we might more profitably and justifiably concentrate on conserving and strengthening our own internal defenses and economy.

Tomorrow some other nation of the free world may be the target of Soviet aggression. If such happens, the victim can look nowhere but to the United States for aid. Will it be a nation that offered and speeded all it could to the collective effort in Korea? Or will it be one that expressed regrets?

The Real Estate Lobby

Association Distributed Pamphlets Of Economic Education Foundation

By Thomas L. Stokes

This is more of the story of one of the organizations surveyed by the House Select Committee to Investigate Lobbying Activities—the so-called Foundation of Economic Education—of the sort financed by big corporate interests that distribute pamphlets and booklets by the hundreds of thousands with New Deal-Fair Deal objectives among their targets.

The fact that they are not now registered under the lobby law, the results that the public is not informed of who is back of them, has raised the question as to whether they should be included when the law is revised.

Correspondence submitted to the committee by Leonard A. Read, president of the Foundation for Economic Education, a blue-stocking, slick-paper outfit, reveals a good deal about its purposes, among other ways through its contacts. Included in the National Association of Real Estate Boards, powerful in the real estate lobby here, which distributed 500,000 copies of the foundation's pamphlet, "Roofs and Cellings," against Federal rent control.

During the negotiations, Mr. Read, in a "Dear Herb" letter to Herbert U. Nelson, chief factotum in this real estate organization, wrote: "There is one paragraph in this whole thing that worries me, as well as the rest of us here. It refers to rent control. While objecting to rent control, the two authors—Milton Friedman and George J. Steigler—argued that what is fundamental is 'long-term measures to reduce the inequality of income and wealth,' saying, in part:

"For those, like us, who would like even more equality than there is at present, not alone for housing but for all production, it is surely better to attack directly existing inequalities in income and wealth at their source than to ration each of the hundreds of services and commodities that compose our standard of living."

Asked for Deletion. Mr. Read asked the authors to delete that paragraph. They refused. So he fixed up an editor's note in the effort to take out the thing. It said, among other things, in explanation: "It means that, even from the standpoint of those who may put equality above justice and liberty, rent controls are 'the height of folly!'" This footnote, he said would appear in the pamphlet "and in your 500,000 copies." Then he concluded to Mr. Nelson:

"This information is passed on to you to take care of any criticisms should they be aimed at you. No one except a sharp, free enterpriser economist would catch the offending paragraph, but then our works are supposed to be above criticism by a free enterpriser." The foundation, which stresses "education," did come under criticism from another quarter, in fact by an educator, Dr. Royal Wilbur France, president of Rollins College. The files show a letter he

wrote to Prof. Fred R. Fairchild of Yale saying he was "puzzled" that Dr. Fairchild was secretary and a trustee of the foundation.

"I have no special quarrels with the purposes of the organization and certainly concede its right to carry on propaganda in behalf of the beliefs of its members; but there is a wide difference between propaganda and education," Dr. France wrote to the distinguished economist. "It is the use of the word education in the title of the organization that I am questioning."

Made A Suggestion.

He suggested that the foundation be made "a truly educational institution of the American people" by broadening it to have others of different viewpoint also give their views on the subject in the pamphlets put out by the foundation, so that both sides would be covered. Dr. Fairchild, in a longer reply, did not see the validity of this suggestion and concluded that the foundation was not interfering with "the fair field of argument" as those with different views had available avenues through which to express them.

One of the most active spirits in the foundation is usually alert with suggestions as the correspondence shows, is Charles M. White, president of Republic Steel—"Dear Charley" to "Leonard." He revealed his proprietary interests in a letter to Trevor Holliday, president of Standard Oil of Ohio, saying: "We are giving them \$10,000 per year and I think they are doing the best job of its kind anywhere." He said "this is not a Leonard Read individual undertaking; this is a great big organization which is growing and expanding and covering the country with the best material available today. I think when you get more information from Leonard Read you are going to go in this thing on the same basis we are."

Mr. Holliday's company contributed \$2,000, the records show.

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—By Harry Hanan



Helping Hand to Russia

Senate Aids Red Cause by Hedging On Admission of Alaska and Hawaii

By Doris Fleenor

James Reston writes in the New York Times that Russian antics at Lake Success "will not fool anybody but the foolish in our part of the world."

The Russians are not aiming primarily at our part of the world. They are aiming at opinion in Korea, China, South-east Asia and India; in short, at those areas where hungry men have reason to disbelieve in the honorable protestations of the nations of the West.

In this enterprise of promoting cynicism in the Orient about America, the United States Senate seems ready to give the Soviet Union a helping hand. Statehood for Alaska and Hawaii, concrete proof that United States democracy faces east as well as west, has been approved by the House and is ready for action by the Senate. But when Majority Leader Lucas said he would call it up following the appropriation bill, the storm signals flew.

Senator Eastland of Mississippi announced he would move to displace it with the Mundt-Ferguson bill. This measure, sponsored by two Republicans, has the worthy purpose of controlling United States Communists, but the administration opposes it as unworkable in itself and untimely. The Justice Department has asked for a delay at least until the Supreme Court passes upon the constitutionality of the Smith Act under which the 11 Communist leaders were convicted in New York.

Appeals to Republicans. But the bill has great appeal to the Republicans, who think they can cash in on the Communist issue in the fall elections. Senator Eastland is tempting them shrewdly; they would like nothing better than to force Democrats to appear to be in opposition to an anti-Communist move.

The Mississippi primary interest is different. He stands for white supremacy and he hates and fears the idea of four United States Senators from Alaska and Hawaii. They are bound to oppose the Solid South in race matters and will cut down its proportional influence in every way.

The majority leader fears he will not face a simple setback if the Mundt-Ferguson bill replaces statehood. Senator Langer, North Dakota Republican, who opposes the present Mundt-Ferguson draft, now denies that he threatened to attach civil rights riders to it, insuring a filibuster. But the situation could be tricky.

Senator Lucas, facing a hard campaign for re-election, is now threatening to throw in his hand, although the statehood bills are certain to pass if they reach a vote. The loss will comprise not only the pledges of both parties and the Democratic President, but more important, the chance to answer Mr. Malik in language the Orient will understand. The argument is being made to the Senator that his best chance of reelection lies in his being a really strong leader of whom the President should not at this hour be deprived.

Reassurances Sought. Reassurances from Republicans are being earnestly sought by their fellow Republican, the Hawaiian delegate, Joseph R. Farrington. There is much he can say.

The party of Abraham Lincoln has been pulling irons from the fire for Southern Democrats rather too obviously lately. Republican votes defeated the Barkley ruling on cloture; Republican Leader Wherry co-operated with Senators Byrd and Russell on the new stiffened cloture rule that makes civil rights legislation all but impossible. There is certainly hypocrisy on both sides on civil rights and statehood, but even so it does not do to be obvious.

Meanwhile the hospital ships are arriving at Pearl Harbor with the wounded of the Korean war. They are from Gen. Walker's 24th Division, which wears the Hawaiian War leaf as its insignia. The first casualty is a Japanese-American war veteran, the second a Korean-American, the third a native-born Hawaiian.

Bette Davis' Ex-Husband Weds Ex-Nursemaid

By the Associated Press
LAGUNA BEACH, Calif., Aug. 7.—William Grant Sherry, Bette Davis' ex-husband, and Marion Richards were married in the chapel of St. Francis-by-the-Sea yesterday. She is 23 and was the former nursemaid of Miss Davis' and Mr. Sherry's daughter. Mr. Sherry is 33.

Don't hoard. The fighting in Korea has created no food shortage and none is in immediate prospect. Let's be sensible. Don't hoard.

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McLemore—

Shudders on Observing Women Puffing Cigars

By Henry McLemore

COPENHAGEN—A few Danish notes by a gentleman of the old Skool: You get sort of used to it after a while, but the custom here of women smoking cigars with all the abandon and enjoyment of men is an eye-brow raising sight at first.

I know that my eyebrows popped up like broken window shades when I first saw a handsomely dressed, white-haired dowager sipping a cup of tea and puffing away at a big black cigar that wouldn't have looked out of place in Winston Churchill's mouth.

Every woman to her taste, but it still looks pretty unromantic to see a pretty girl working away on a cheroot. Can you imagine Tin Pan Alley ever turning out a love ballad entitled, "Two Cigars in the Dark"? Could it possibly be the custom here for new mothers to hand out cigars to their women friends?

Much as we like Copenhagen, maybe it is just as well that we are leaving for Oslo in a few days. For a reason which no visitor can possibly figure out this city has decided it has a serious traffic problem. And, for a reason which I am sure no sane man could ever figure out, Copenhagen's city fathers have decided to import a Frenchman—a Parisian, no less—to help them solve their problem.

Now, anyone familiar with Paris traffic knows that it can't even rightly be called traffic, so horrible is it. It is a continual snarl, tangle, bang, honk and bump. There are few more harrowing experiences in the world than trying to make it across the Etoile to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. And around the Place de l'Opera one must be brave, agile and gifted with luck to cross the street unscathed.

I assume Copenhagen got this particular Parisian traffic expert because he was the only one

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available, the others being laid up by traffic accidents. Copenhagen is so spread out that it must have less traffic congestion than any city of its size in the world. The bulk of the traffic is made up of bicycles. Of course, there is always the chance that Copenhagen is jealous of the traffic of other world capitals, and has hired the Frenchman to get it into a state of high, honking confusion. If that's the aim, then the right man undoubtedly has been chosen.

Speaking of bicycles, the cyclists here go the Belgians and Dutch one better. Many of the bikes are equipped with radios with 10-foot aerials. The bicycle is a sacred animal in this part of the world. Let a motorist bump a cyclist and he'll be arrested on the spot. I don't know what the law is, but the cyclist certainly seems to have the right of way. He does not yield to any other vehicle, but gaily pedals in front of heavy trucks, knowing they will have to stop.

Danish bakers should sue all American bakers who put out so-called Danish pastry. The American type has roughly the same shape, but there the similarity stops. The pastry you get

here with your breakfast coffee is as light as butterfly wings and is so airy it doesn't even have time to melt in your mouth. In case any of my readers are under the impression that I am eating practically without pause on this trip, they are darned well right. If a gusset is what I think a gusset is, I am going to have to go to a good gusset shop soon and make some purchases. Then when I appear on a tennis court I will be spoken of as "Gorgeous Gusset" McLemore.

Speaking of eating, most of the hotel dining rooms and restaurants here have a pleasant custom. The flag of the diner's country always flies from a little flag-staff on his table.

This enables all Americans to recognize one another and get together for a chat, thus creating the illusion that they aren't in a foreign country at all, but back in the good old U. S. A. It also helps in bumming American cigarettes, which they don't have in this country. Another American blessing is that it enables the camera fiends among the Americans to show the endless pictures they have taken of everything from a snow-covered Alp to a double exposure of a windmill.

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